



NEWS RELEASE

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests Thunder Basin National Grassland

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/mbr/news>

Date: June 12, 2009

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Opportunity to Comment **Snowy Range Scenic Byway**

(Saratoga, Wyo., June 12, 2009) – The Forest Service is seeking public input on several projects designed to improve the quality of the public experience along the Snowy Range Scenic Byway Corridor. The Snowy Range Scenic Byway is a 27 mile stretch of Highway 130, which extends from Centennial to the Forest boundary near Ryan Park. The Byway runs through the Brush Creek/Hayden and Laramie Ranger Districts of the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests, in Carbon and Albany Counties, Wyoming.

The projects are intended to protect the intrinsic qualities of the byway, improve visitor experience, increase public understanding of the natural and cultural history of the Forest and the historic byway, balance conservation with tourism development, and improve public safety along the byway. The projects are: 1) Replace the Centennial visitor information center with a new facility; 2) Improve the Brush Creek visitor information site; 3) Improve the Hanging Lake pullout; 4) Develop an off-highway snowmobile parking lot/trailhead in place of current parking along Highway 130 (one option is just within a roadless area); 5) Expand accessible fishing opportunities at Barber Lake; 6) Improve the existing parking area at the Sucker Lake turn-off; 7) Improve the Towner Lake Road; and 8) Pave the first half mile of the Sand Lake Road just north of Highway 130.

The comment period ends 30 days following the date of publication of the legal notice in the Rawlins Daily Times, expected on June 17, 2009. **This is the only opportunity for the public to comment on this proposal prior to the decision.** More Information about these projects is on the Forest Service's website at www.fs.fed.us/r2/mbr/projects/rec. Please contact Paul Willard of the Brush Creek/Hayden Ranger District at (307) 326-2525 for additional information.

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